This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of inhibitors of the interaction between HIV-1 TAT protein and HIV-1 gp 120~~ A method for inhibiting the entry of HIV-1 into a host cell comprising contacting said cell with an inhibitor of the interaction between HIV-1 TAT protein and HIV-1 gp 120.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ A method of claim 1, wherein the inhibitor binds to TAT.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ A method of claim 2, wherein the inhibitor is a peptide.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ A method of claim 3, wherein the peptide is homologous to the gp 120 V1/V2 region.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ A method of claim 3, wherein the pepide is selected from:
   (a) CTVECYFNCTPTC (SEQ ID No. 2)
   (b) CPDRKKKVVMVC (SEQ ID No. 3)
   (c) CSFNITTEIRDKVKK (SEQ ID No. 127)
   (d) a peptide comprising at least 5 contiguous amino acids from a peptide, selected from the group consisting of peptides (a) - (c),
   (e) a peptide which has a sequence identity of at least 80 % to the amino acid sequence of a peptide selected from the group consisting of peptides (a) - (d).

6. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ A method of claim 3, wherein the peptide is selected from:
   (a) RDKKKK (SEQ ID No. 40),
   (b) RDKKKQ (SEQ ID No. 41),
   (c) RDKKKV (SEQ ID No. 42),

(d) RNKRKQ (SEQ ID No. 51),

(e) RDKTQK (SEQ ID No. 52),

(f) DRKKKV (SEQ ID No. 43),

(g) KDKKEK (SEQ ID No. 45),

(h) RDKQQK (SEQ ID No. 49),

(i) RDKVQK (SEQ ID No. 50),

(j) CSFNIT (SEQ ID No. 4),

(k) RDKVKK (SEQ ID No. 44),

(l) a peptide comprising at least 5 contiguous amino acids from a peptide selected from the group consisting of peptides (a) -(k),

(m) a peptide which has an identity of at least 80 % to the amino acid sequence of peptide selected from the group consisting of peptides (a) - (l).

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ A method of claim 1, wherein the inhibitor binds to gf120.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ A method of Claim 1, wherein the host cell is a human cell.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ A method of Claim 1 for ~~the manufacture of a medicament for~~ the treatment of HIV-1 infections.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ A method of claim 9 for the treatment of infections by M-tropic and L-tropic HIV-1 strains.

11. (Original) A method for identifying and/or characterizing a compound which inhibits the entry of HIV-1 into a host cell comprising

(i) providing at least one compound to be tested and

(ii) determining if the compound is capable of inhibiting the interaction between HIV-1 TAT protein and HIV-1 gp120.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein a plurality of compounds is tested in parallel or sequential.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein a compound library is tested.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11, which is a cellular-based assay.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11, which is a molecular-based assay.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11, wherein a compound which has been identified as an inhibitor or a compound desired therefrom is formulated as a pharmaceutical composition.

17. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising as an active ingredient at least one inhibitor of the interaction between HIV-1 TAT protein and HIV-1 gp 120 and optionally pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, diluents and/or adjuvants.

18. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 17, wherein the inhibitor binds to TAT.

19. (Original) A peptide which is selected from:

(a) CTVECYFNCTPTC (SEQ ID No. 2)

(b) CPDRKKKVVMVC (SEQ ID No. 3)

(c) CSFNITTEIRDKVKK (SEQ ID No. 127)

(d) a peptide comprising at least 5 contiguous amino acids from a peptide, selected from the group consisting of peptides (a) - (c),

(e) a peptide which has a sequence identity of at least 80 % to the amino acid sequence of a peptide selected from the group consisting of peptides (a) - (d).

20. (Original) A peptide which is selected from:

(a) RDKKKK (SEQ ID No. 40),

(b) RDKKKQ (SEQ ID No. 41),

(c) RDKKKV (SEQ ID No. 42),

(d) RNKRKQ (SEQ ID No. 51),

(e) RDKTQK (SEQ ID No. 52),

(f) DRKKKV (SEQ ID No. 43),

(g) KDKKEK (SEQ ID No. 45),

(h) RDKQQK (SEQ ID No. 49),

(i) RDKVQK (SEQ ID No. 50),

(j) CSFNIT (SEQ ID No. 4),

(k) RDKVKK (SEQ ID No. 44),

(l) a peptide comprising at least 5 contiguous amino acids from a peptide selected from the group consisting of peptides (a) -(k),

(m) a peptide which has an identity of at least 80 % to the amino acid sequence of peptide selected from the group consisting of peptides (a) - (l).

21. (Original) Peptide combination comprising at least two peptides with the sequences shown in SEQ ID NO. 2-127.

22. (Original) Peptide combination of claim 21, wherein at least one disulfide bridge is present.